engaged in export of manpower abroad are duping a large number of people of their savings;

(b) if so, the number of such cases which have come to the notice of Government during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken to nab all such agencies and to safeguard the interests of the people?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) During the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95, 242 complaints were received against the Recruiting Agents registered with the Ministry of Labour.

(c) Complaints against Registered Recruiting agents are enquired into with the help of police authorites and the concerned Indian Missions abroad and action is taken, as appropriate in each case in accordence with the provisions of the Emigration Act, 1983 and Rules framed thereunder. Complaints against un-registered recruiting agents are referred to the concerned police authorities for investigation. Complaints against foreign employers are taken up with the Indian Missions abroad. In addition, departmental action is taken against erring agents in terms of suspension and cancellation of licenses.

न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम, 1948 को लागू करने वाले राज्य

1351. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:** क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) किन-किन राज्यों में न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम, 1948 के उपबंधों को समुचित ढंग से लागू किया गया है ;

(ख) किन-किन राज्यों में उपर्युक्त अधिनियम के उपबंधों को समुचित ढंग से लागू नहीं किया गया है, और

(ग) खेतिहर मजदूरों की मजदूरी से संबंधित वर्षों से लम्बित विवादों की संख्या क्या है और इन लम्बित मामलों को शीघ्र निपटाने हेतु सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं?

श्रम मंत्री (श्री जी॰ वेंकट स्वामी): (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Prices of Edible Oils

1352. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 16 and Unstarred Question 97 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27.11.95 and state what has been the selling and procurement prices of edible oils obtainable in the open market/Super Bazar/Kendriya Bhandar, branch-wise during the year 1995 (so far)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA): The Purchase price and selling price of various edible oils in the branches of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar and also the open market price can be seen in the enclosed statement. [*See* Appendix 175, Annexure No. 36].

Changes in Guidelines for Investment by Indian Corporates

1353. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently notified any major changes in the guidelines for investment by Indian Corporates in joint ventures abroad making it easier for them to acquire companies overseas; and

(b) if so, the details of the changes made and the salient features of the benefits accruing to Indian Companies therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Copy of the Revised guidelines for Indian Direct

Investment in Joint ventures and wholly owned subsidiaries abroad have been notified by Govt. on 17.8.95 are given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 175, Annexure No. 37]

Long wall technology in coal industry

1354. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) how many long wall faces, with their value, expected capacity and actual capacity were purchased or procured;

(b) whether this technology was found suitable under the Indian conditions, the details with reference particularly to Churcha mines;

(c) if so, whether inspite of failure of this technology Government have recently entered into an agreement, taking loan from Bank of China for supply of more long wall faces, to our coal industry; and

(d) if so, the reasons for procuring long wall faces now from China even when this technology has not earlier succeeded to desired levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Till date Coal India Limited (CIL) has purchased/acquired 29 longwall sets (17 powered support longwall equipment and 12 individual support longwall equipment) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) has purchased/acquired 9 powered support longwall equipment. Details regarding these longwall sets in CIL and SCCL are indicated in the enclosed Statement *(See* below).

(b) Powered support longwall technology practiced in CIL coal mines yielded mixed results. Where and when geological conditions and other logistic supports were found to be favourable, the longwall fares produced rated or more than their rated capacity.

Four Churcha mine, CIL selected highest rated equipment [(4×680 TE) powered support and 380 KW shearer] with inbuilt protective features. Due to unanticipated massive dynamic weighting of the huge immediate sand stone roof, the supports collapsed.

(c) CIL and China National Coal Mining Engineering Group Corporation have signed four contracts for supply. commissioning and installation of four longwall equipment sets at Churcha West, Balrampur, Rajendra and New Kenda mines. The total value of the contracts is about US $ 32.68 million.

SCCL has signed a contract for purchase of two sets of longwall equipment and one trunk belt conveyor system from China. The total contract value is US $ 21.96 million.

(d) The geomining conditions in some of our coal mines are difficult to tackle. As such, the transfer of the technology for hard roof management in underground mines which has been well developed in China has been sought which would help in increasing underground coal production in future.

Statement

(a) Powered Support Longwall Equipment

Name of Company	Project/face nomenclature	Cost (Rs. crores)	Rated Capacity (TPD)
CIL	Moonidih ML - I	3.20	760
	Moonidih ML - II	3.30	620
	Moonidih ML - III	3.36	1,030